

Higher Education Support for Young Women

The Home's Somerville Village is an innovative program for young women ages 18 to 25 who are experiencing homelessness or at risk for homelessness and driven to pursue higher education. Offering both a safe landing and a springboard for opportunity, Somerville Village was created for aspirational young women who believe education is a passport to success. Residents find housing, a sense of community and a wide network of therapeutic, emotional and educational supports.



THE NEED



Young adults who “age out” of the child welfare system are offered limited support. Research has shown that, in addition to experiencing homelessness, fewer than 3% of youth who age out of care with nowhere to go will earn a college degree by age 25.

OUR IMPACT



Somerville Village aims to divert this outcome by offering housing and educational and emotional support for young women who are determined to change the trajectory of their lives for the better. Last year, The Home served 158 young adults who would otherwise be homeless.

About Us

Somerville Village provides housing, therapeutic, emotional and educational supports to up to 15 women who have earned a high school diploma or are within a year of doing so, exhibit a strong desire to pursue higher education and are committed to their academic and personal growth. The program is conveniently located in Somerville near public transportation.

Somerville Village encourages young women to believe in the power within them and seize their own opportunities.

A Place Where Students Can Succeed

LOCATION: ♥ Somerville, MA

CAPACITY: ♥ 15

RESIDENTS: ♥ Young women ages 18 to 25

SETTING: ♥ Two-story house with 15 bedrooms, a kitchen, five baths, living areas and study space



HOW WE HELP

Somerville Village uses evidence-based intervention and prevention to provide a network of support to students. The staff of life coaches are the heart of this program. They motivate students, meeting with them on an ongoing basis to help them develop and achieve personal and academic goals, coordinate services within the community and build healthy adult and peer relationships and lifelong connections.

- ♥ Life coach services
- ♥ Interview preparation
- ♥ Post-secondary application support
- ♥ Education support
- ♥ Motivational interviewing
- ♥ Connections to community resources
- ♥ Life skills support
- ♥ Lived experience
- ♥ Assistance with meal preparation and planning



"I came to Somerville Village at age 18 with literally nothing. My parents told me I wouldn't amount to anything, that I could never go to college on my own. The staff helped me move forward and told me that I can achieve my own success. Living at Somerville Village, I finished high school with high honors and was awarded a scholarship to a private university. The Home gave me the opportunity to get my bachelor's degree."

—A resident

About The Home *for* Little Wanderers

For over 200 years, The Home for Little Wanderers has helped build stable lives and hopeful tomorrows for children and their families. Our 30+ community-based and residential programs serve thousands of youth, from birth to age 26, who are in at-risk circumstances. Many of these children have experienced abuse, neglect, trauma or a disrupted family life. As the oldest child welfare agency in America, we provide them with safe surroundings, permanent loving relationships and a secure path toward a better, brighter future.



For more information or to receive an application, call 508-531-1483 or contact directortay@thehome.org.